

Association of Amer. Physic

*ABSTRACTS OF PAPERS*

*To be read at the*

*TENTH ANNUAL MEETING*

*Of the*

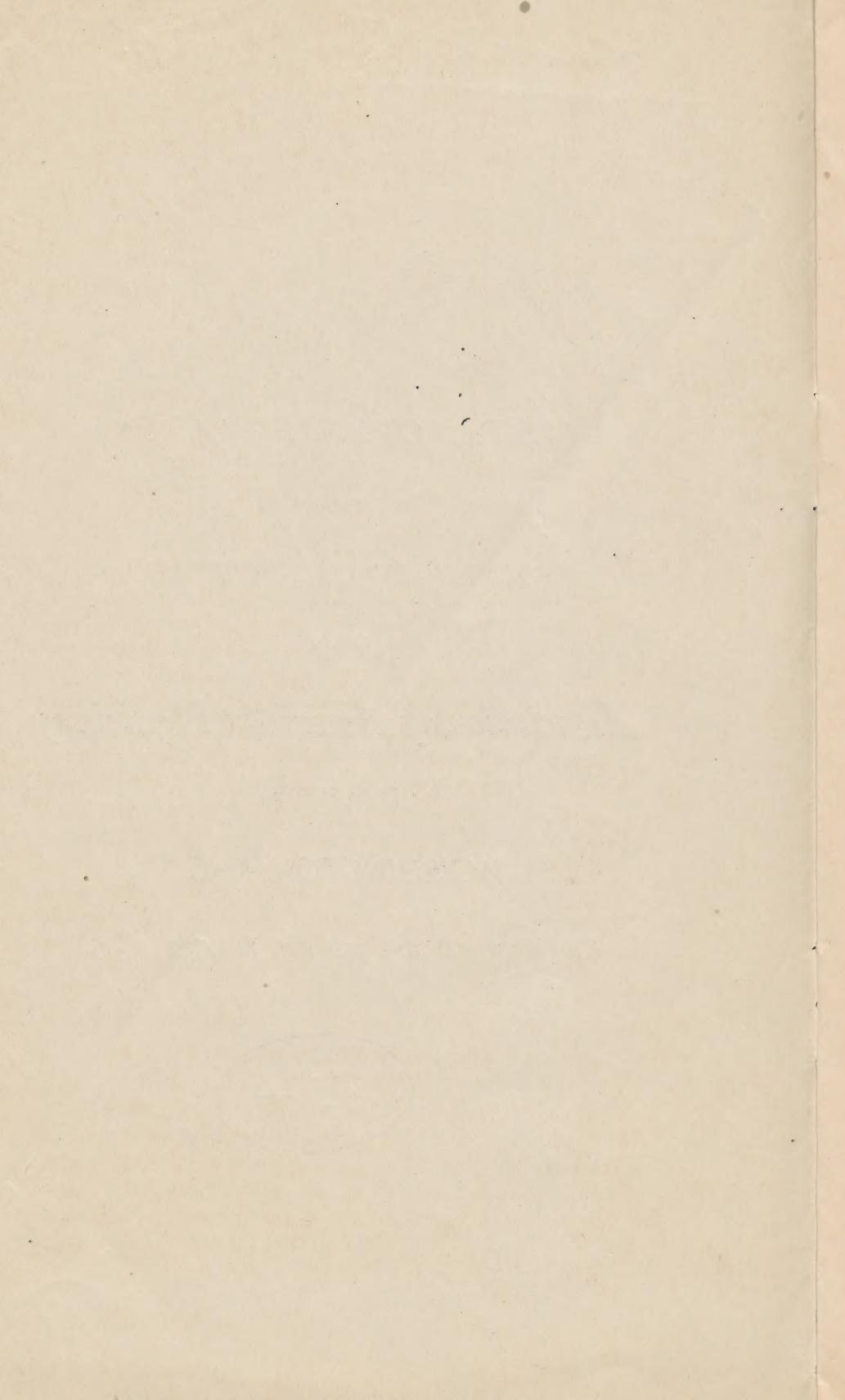
Association of American Physicians

*To be held in*

*WASHINGTON, D. C.,*

*On May 30th and 31st and June 1st, 1895.*





## ABSTRACTS.

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### LEUCOMAIN POISONING.

B. K. RACHFORD, CINCINNATI.

Leucomain poisoning is a form of auto-intoxication etiologically related to migraine, migrainous epilepsy, and migrainous gastric neurosis. Paraxanthim, the most poisonous of leucomains, is found in very great excess in the urine passed immediately after these migrainous attacks, and is not found in increased quantities in the urine of these patients between these attacks.

Xanthin, another poisonous leucomain, is found in great excess in the urine passed just after one of these attacks, and in migrainous gastric neurosis xanthin is found not only in great excess in the urine, but it is also found in the stomach contents.

The paraxanthim separated from the urine of these cases will produce in the mouse symptoms very similar to an attack of migrainous epilepsy.

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### SOME TOXICOGENIC GERMS FOUND IN POISONOUS FOOD.

VICTOR C. VAUGHAN AND GEORGE D. PERKINS,  
ANN ARBOR, MICH.

Short histories of the symptoms, number of persons and results will be given. These will be followed by descriptions of the morphological and toxicogenic properties of the germs found in the food, as determined by cultures on various media, and by their action on rabbits, rats and guinea pigs.

THE EFFECT OF THE GASEOUS PRODUCTS OF DECOMPOSITION UPON THE HEALTH OF ANIMALS THAT ARE COMPELLED TO RESPIRE THEM.

A. C. ABBOTT, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

In a paper read by the writer at the Congress of American Physicians and Surgeons, session of 1894, were presented the results of a series of experimental studies that were made with a view of determining in how far the opinion held by many with regard to the part played by the air of sewers in causing or disseminating diseases, could be supported by evidence obtained through the employment of exact chemical, physical and bacteriological methods of investigation.

The outcome of these experiments afforded nothing to justify the view that the air of sewers, under ordinary circumstances, could be held accountable for either the causation or dissemination of infectious maladies.

Since the presentation of the conclusions embodied in that paper, a series of experiments have been made with the object of discovering the effect of the gaseous products of decomposition on the health and resistance to infection of animals that were compelled to respire them. For this purpose animals, rats and guinea pigs, were confined under bell glasses through which was passed continuously, for varying periods, the air from over substances (meat infusion, sewerage and urine), in different stages of decay. Some of the animals were subjected to this treatment only, while others were inoculated from time to time during the experiment with cultures of the bacillus of typhoid fever. Of eighteen animals on which the experiments were performed, only two, which will be referred to in detail in the body of this paper, showed any effect; the remaining sixteen presenting nothing that could be attributed to the conditions under which they had lived for from one to five months prior to their being killed. The general condition of these animals during the experiments, as determined by their outward appearance, appetite and daily fluctuations in weight, was as good as that of other animals kept under the ordinary conditions of the laboratory.

As a result, the conclusion seems justifiable, that as ordinarily respired, the air of sewers, or that from other bodies undergoing decomposition and putrefaction, has either not the power of inducing pathological conditions at all, or, if it has, such conditions are not demonstratable by such laboratory methods of experimentation as we have practiced on rabbits and guinea pigs.

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#### RENAL AFFECTIONS FOLLOWING INFLUENZA.

G. BAUMGARTEN, ST. LOUIS, Mo.

A report of eight cases, from which it appears that damage to the kidneys is a frequent, and sometimes a serious consequence of grippe. Besides transient albuminuria, there have been found acute degeneration of the kidney, acute inflammation, both forms of chronic diffuse nephritis, and cases of persistent albuminuria not plainly belonging to one of these groups. The injurious influence on public health exerted by an epidemic of grippe may last much longer than the epidemic itself, by reason of renal and other sequels.

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#### ETIOLOGY OF IDIOPATHIC HYPERTROPHY OF THE HEART.

JAS. T. WHITAKER, CINCINNATI.

Hypertrophy independent of valve disease or obstacle to the circulation in the heart itself. The term a misnomer. The condition is more frequent than is commonly believed.

Hypertrophies are due—

1. To increased resistance in the vascular system. For example, arterio-sclerosis.
2. To diseases of the heart muscle from infection, degeneration, etc.
3. To affections of the nervous system.

The hypertrophy of age, of work, of plethora, of pregnancy, of alcohol.

Hypertrophy from Bright's disease, from diseases and deformities of the chest, emphysema, kyphosis.

Hypertrophy from myocarditis, syphilis, gout and diabetes.

Hypertrophy from irritation of the vagus, from abuse of tobacco, from excess in venery, etc.

## THE TRANSMISSION OF MITRAL DIASTOLIC MURMURS.

J. P. CROZER GRIFFITH, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The object of the paper is to call attention to the fact that the ordinary transmission of these murmurs, with a limitation of sound to the mitral stenotic circle, as usually described, by no means always holds good ; but that the murmurs may be widely diffused and heard far from the ordinary area.

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## THE USE OF THE DIFFERENTIAL STETHOSCOPE IN THE STUDY OF CARDIAC MURMURS.

ANDREW H. SMITH, NEW YORK.

The differential stethoscope enables us to hear separately two sounds produced at the same time in different localities. It is useful when we find that a murmur is produced at each of two cardiac orifices, but are unable to determine whether the two murmurs occur synchronously or alternately. This doubt may arise whenever the distinction between first and second sound is lost. This distinction is likely to be lost whenever the heart's action is considerably accelerated, while at the same time the distinctive quality of the sounds is marked by the presence of murmurs. In such cases the differential stethoscope enables us to decide whether both murmurs occur at the same time, or first one and then the other. It also determines whether murmurs produced at different orifices by the same act of the heart are, or are not, exactly synchronous; an important point in the study of the action of the valves in health and disease.

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## THE CAUSE OF THE EXAGGERATION OF SOUNDS OVER THE RIGHT UPPER CHEST, BOTH IN HEALTH AND DISEASE.

CHARLES CARY, BUFFALO.

I. All authorities describe a disparity in the physical signs, both in health and disease, between the superior lobes of the lungs.

2. It is not satisfactorily accounted for by any author whose work has come under the notice of the writer.

3. The right bronchus give off a branch to supply the upper lobe immediately at but a short distance from the bifurcation of the trachea; this branch is not represented in the left side of man. In some animals this branch to the upper right lobe springs from the trachea itself, two or more inches above the bifurcation.

4. Our common text books on anatomy, with perhaps one exception, make no mention of this striking difference in the two sides.

5. Exaggerated sounds of voice, breathing, percussion and fremitus on the right side under like conditions are to be accounted for by this bronchus, which serves as a much more direct transmitting medium.

#### PREPARATION OF ANTITOXINE.

H. C. ERNST, JAMAICA PLAIN.

The paper will consist of an account of some experiences in the preparation of the antitoxine of diphtheria.

#### A CASE OF MADURA FOOT DISEASE (MYCETOMA PEDIS).

J. GEORGE ADAMI, MONTREAL.

Report of a case occurring in a man who has lived all his life in America. Probably one of the first undoubted case reported on this continent. The appearances during life are described, and are illustrated by photographs. The results of the microscopical examination of the lesions on the foot (after the latter had been amputated by Syme's operation), are given, and the resemblance of the lesions to those of actinomyces is pointed out. A brief description of the two varieties of mycetoma—the black and the white—and of the clinical history of the disease completes the paper.

## GONORRHŒAL ARTHRITIS—CLINICAL OBSERVATIONS.

WM. P. NORTHRUP, NEW YORK.

Some cases showing in general these characteristics—

1. One joint (elbow or knee).
  2. Fusiform swelling, indicating
  3. Periarthritic lesion, with
  4. Synovial effusion, serous probably;
  5. Soon absorbed, leaving
  6. No adhesions.
  7. Exquisite sensitiveness, with
  8. Little local heat and
  9. Little fever ( $100-101^{\circ}$ ).
  10. Course, four weeks.
  11. Recovering with perfect joint.
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## A COMFORTABLE WAY OF USING COLD IN FEVERS.

FRANCIS H. WILLIAMS, BOSTON.

Evaporation of liquids to cool a surface; some conditions affecting this, such as suitable covering, choice of liquid and its temperature; use of such a method clinically.

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## SOME OBSERVATIONS ON THE SPLEEN AND MARROW IN A CASE OF LEUKÆMIA.

JOHN GUITERAS, PHILADELPHIA.

The paper will bear principally on the formation of red blood cells in these structures.

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## GOITRE IN MICHIGAN.

GEORGE DOCK, ANN HARBOR.

The object of the paper is to call attention to the prevalence of goitre in Michigan and its vicinity, with the view of exciting a greater interest in the subject. Although the disease is often so mild that it does not require treatment, it is sometimes severe. Allied diseases, like myxœdema and cretinism, do not seem to be less rare here than in other places. A relationship with water supply must exist, a point to which attention is called in reference to prophylaxis.

## DISPLACEMENTS OF THE LIVER.

J. E. GRAHAM, TORONTO.

A brief account of the literature of the subject; a short description of three cases met with in practice; the etiology symptoms, diagnosis and treatment of displaced liver; a tabulated statement of thirty published cases.

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## CARCINOMA OF THE LIVER WITH CIRRHOSIS.

M. H. FUSSELL, PHILADELPHIA.

1. Review of the literature of the subject from article by Kelschard Kierer, in Archives de Physiologie, 1876 to the present time. Absence of any note of the conditions in the English language.
  2. Citations of two cases.
  3. Relations of the cirrhosis to the cancerous growth.
  4. Origin of the cancer cells, whether from the hepatic cells or intertubular ducts.
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## FORCIBLE ARTIFICIAL RESPIRATION—FELL—O'DWYER'S APPARATUS—CASES—APPARATUS SHOWN.

W. P. NORTHRUP, NEW YORK.

The paper will contain an account of cases where artificial respiration was maintained four, twelve and twenty-five hours, in fracture of the skull, with operation, opium poisoning, etc.

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## CAROSSO'S METHOD OF TREATMENT OF PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS.

H. C. ERNST, JAMAICA PLAIN.

The paper will embody a brief account of a few cases treated by this method during the past seven months, and their present condition.

ON THE DIRECT FARADISATION OF THE MUCOUS MEMBRANES OF THE STOMACH AND THE INTESTINES IN ANIMALS—DOGS, CATS AND RABBITS.

S. J. MELTZER, NEW YORK.

Against all clinical expectations, the experiment on animals revealed the surprising fact that neither the stomach nor the intestines can be brought to contraction by faradisation of their mucous membranes. Neither can the stomach be brought to contraction by application of one of the electrodes on the mucous membrane and the other direct on the muscular sheath of the stomach. The application of one electrode on the intestines, and the introduction of the other into the rectum, does not produce any contraction of the intestines, but kills the animal sometimes.



